2nd March 1954]

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know whether the local library authorities of North Arcot, Chingleput, Madras and other districts have prohibited the use of this book, edited by one Sri Anna, in their respective libraries, mistaking the name ' Anna ' for that of Sri Annathurai? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. As a matter of fact, we have recommended this book, to all the local authorities, to be used in their libraries. I do not think there is any such prohibition by any local authority."

House-sites for Harijans in Malabar.

* 31 *Q*.—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Harijans in Malabar applied for house-sites during the last three years and how many applications have been disposed of; and

(*b*) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal for the appointment of a special officer in Malabar district to deal with cases of acquisition of house-sites for Harijans?

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—

" (*a*) Twenty-five applications were received by the Collector of Malabar. Eight cases are under enquiry and land acquisition proceedings have been taken in three cases. The remaining applications have been rejected.

" (*b*) The proposal is under consideration."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" May I know whether any single application has been completely disposed of? The Hon. Minister said that Land Acquisition Proceedings are being taken. We have had instances of such proceedings being taken abolished and then again being taken. In this manner, these questions have been pending for 6 or 7 years and the usual complaint of the authorities is that there is no special staff."

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" The Collector has reported as follows :—

' 14 cases were rejected for the following reasons . . . ' "

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" I want to know whether any single petition has been finally disposed of till now."

Sri P. G. MANICKAM :—" ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு மனைக்கட்டுகள் வழங்குவதில் அதிகமான தகராறுகள் எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலும் இருப்பதால் அதை கவனிப்பதற்கு ஒரு ஸ்பெஷல் ஆபீசரை நியமிக்க ஹரிஜன இலாகா மந்திரி அவர்கள் நடவடிக்கை எடுப்பாரா ?"

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" In almost every district, there is a Harijan Welfare Officer and one of his main duties is to arrange for the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans."

SRI O. KORAN :—" May I know why, in the matter of assignment of house-sites to Harijans, the district of Malabar has been neglected so far? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" No, Sir. I have already said on a different occasion that the case of Malabar is peculiar. As in districts, there are no cheris in Malabar. The Harijans live in individual isolated places on lands belonging to janmis or others. The right of the janmis has to be investigated. After the coming into force of the Malabar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, the question has to be tackled successfully. That Act is now before the President of India and as soon as his assent to that Act is received, the position will be made quite clear and convenient."

SRI S. VADIVELU :—" பல இடங்களில் சர்க்கார் மனைக்கட்டு வழங்கி இருந்தும்கூட அதில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வீடு கட்டுவதற்கு முடியாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே வீடு கட்டிக்கொள்வதற்கு அவர்களுக்குப் பணம் கொடுத்து உதவ சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" This is a different question unconnected with the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans. The hon. Member's question relates to the building of houses for Harijans. I may tell the hon. Member that the matter is being considered on the merits of each case and the financial condition of the Hari jans."

SRI P. G. KARUTHIRUMAN :—" ஹரிஜனங்களை சமூகத்திலிருந்து எப்படி ஒதுக்கி சேரியில் வைத்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதே மாதிரி ஜில்லாக்களில் இருக்கிற ஹரிஜன ஆபீசர்களும் ஹரிஜன நலனைப் பார்க்காமல் அவர்களை ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is an altogether different question "

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு மனைக் கட்டுகள் வேறு இடத்தில் கொடுப்பதால் அவர்கள் வீடு கட்டிக்கொள்ள முடியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்கள் தற்போது இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கின்ற இடங்களையே ஆர்ஜிதம் (acquire) செய்து அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க சர்க்கார் முன்வருமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்.?"

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" If there is sufficient space in the locality in which the Harijans are at present living, certainly the Government will come forward to afford the necessary facilities to acquire house-sites for them."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" இது புதுப் பிரச்னை அல்ல. இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களாகத் தோழர்கள் இந்தப் பிரச்னையை மலபார் ஹரிஜனங்கள் சார்பில் எழுப்பி இருக்கிறார்கள் ; அங்கு ஒரு செண்ட் நிலம் கூட இன்னும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. ஆகவே ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு உடனடியாக நிலங்களை வழங்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் ஒரு கமிட்டியை நியமித்து ஆவன செய்ய முன் வருமா ? "

2nd March 1954]

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" After the assent of the President of India to the Malabar Tenancy (Amendment) Act is received, I think the position will be made easy and the Harijans can be placed in a very advantageous position."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister has not answered my question, whether any single application has been finally disposed of in the last three years, other than by way of rejection?" 10–40 a.m.

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" Sir, according to the information available to the Government, acquisition proceedings have been instituted in three cases and the remaining eight cases are under enquiry. That means in these cases, the matter has not been finally disposed of."

Sri A. APPU :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that a few lakhs of rupees were allotted to Malabar district for acquisition of house-sites for Harijans and that that amount was surrendered by the Collector? If so, why?"

The Hon. Sri V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" A separate question may kindly be put, Sir."

Suicide in the Sub-jail, Vriddhachalam.

* 32 *Q.*—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state with reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 1, dated 14th December 1953, the name and age of the person who committed suicide in the Sub-Jail, Vriddhachalam, and under what circumstances it happened?

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The remand prisoner who committed suicide by hanging in the Sub-Jail, Vriddhachalam, on the early morning of 10th October 1952 was one Kidayan *alias* Chinnathambi of Melakuppam village. He was aged 35 when he died. He had been remanded to custody for 15 days from 27th September 1952 by the Sub-Magistrate, Vriddhachalam. As the remand prisoner was a leper, he was not allowed to mingle with the other inmates of the Sub-jail and was, therefore, kept in a separate cell. During the early hours of the 10th October 1952, it was found that the remand prisoner had committed suicide by tying one end of his dhothi round his neck and the other end tied round the iron door frame and gate of the cell. According to the medical report the death was due to asphyxia by hanging. An enquiry conducted by the ex-officio First-class Magistrate, Tirukkoyilur, showed that since his remand in Sub-jail the deceased was moody, dejected and brooding, that he took advantage of the fact that he was alone in the cell and committed suicide by hanging. According to the medical evidence, the deceased committed suicide at about 2-30 a.m. that night. The finding of the ex-officio First-class Magistrate was that the deceased committed suicide by hanging himself and that there was nothing to suspect any foul play."